

REMARKS

A petition to extend the time for response by two (2) months is enclosed herewith.

A new claim 26 has been added. Claims 10 – 14 and 16 - 26 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 10 – 13, 18, 20 - 21, 23, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by EP 0 556 787 to Premoli. Also, in the Office Action, claims 10 – 11, 18, 20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by US Patent No. 5,368,379 to Wrangberth. Moreover, in the Office Action, claims 14, 16, 17, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over EP 0 556 787 to Premoli. Furthermore, in the Office Action, claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over EP 0 556 787 to Premoli in view of US Patent No. 3,658,075 to Jacobs.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 10 – 14 and 16 - 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of the following comments.

Claim 10 of the present application recites a washing container for a dishwashing machine, including a container body including a plurality of assembled parts, a base frame part, and at least one cover part attached to the base frame part. The cover part includes a plurality of side parts and the side parts are connected to one another at an angle to form the cover part.

EP 0 556 787 to Premoli discloses a washing container for a dishwashing machine wherein the cover part is a unitary monopiece.

US Patent No. 5,368,379 to Wrangberth discloses a container body for a dishwasher having a base 10 and an upper part 11, which together enclose a dish basket on which dishes are stored, and at least one rotating wash arm. The upper part 11 has two side walls 12, a rear wall 13, and a roof 14. The lower part of each side wall 12 has a projecting flange 15 with holes 16 for fastening the upper part to the base. The upper part 11 preferably is made from stainless steel or plastic and has an outwardly directed flange 17 surrounding the opening of the tub. The open side of the tub is provided with a door which is supported on dowels 18 arranged at each side of the base 10. The base 10 is the main element of a stiff shell structure with an upper, generally horizontal, rectangular plate 19 which forms the bottom of the tub. This plate has vertical side walls 20, and front and rear walls 21 joined to the vertical side walls.

US Patent No. 3,658,075 to Jacobs discloses a heat exchanger 60 integrated within a dishwashing machine container.

EP 0 556 787 to Premoli discloses a washing container for a dishwashing machine that, according to Page 3 of the Office Action, comprises "all the elements recited in the above listed claims including, such as shown in Figs 7-9, a container body having a plurality of assembled parts, a base frame 1', at least one cover part 22' attached to the base frame part 1', said cover part including a plurality of side parts 23', 44, said side parts connected to one another at an angle to form a substantially U-shaped cover part 22' having an open end, the base frame part having an upstanding side part 28, said upstanding side part located in said U-shaped cover part open end completing said cover part, said base frame part 1' and said upstanding side part 28 formed as a unitary assembly, said base frame part and said upstanding side part unitary assembly formed from a molded plastic material and said cover part formed from a

corrosion-resistant material, said base frame part including a filter floor part 4 (col. 3, lines 53-58)."

However, Applicants submit that EP 0 556 787 to Premoli does not teach or disclose the feature recited in claim 10 of the present application of a cover part attached to the base frame part, wherein the cover part includes a plurality of side parts and the side parts are connected to one another at an angle to form the cover part. Instead, EP 0 556 787 to Premoli discloses a washing container for a dishwashing machine wherein the cover part is a unitary monopiece. This is contrary to the invention of the instant application as claimed, in which the cover part includes a plurality of side parts connected to one another at an angle to form the cover part.

Applicants also submit that US Patent No. 5,368,379 to Wrangberth does not teach or disclose the washing container for a dishwashing machine recited in claim 20 of the present application that comprises a cover part attached to the base frame part, wherein the cover part includes a plurality of side parts connected to one another at an angle to form a substantially U-shaped periphery of the cover part. Instead, US Patent No. 5,368,379 to Wrangberth discloses a container for a dishwashing machine wherein the cover part does not have a U-shaped periphery.

US Patent No. 3,658,075 to Jacobs does not teach or disclose that a cover part attached to the base frame part, wherein the cover part includes a plurality of side parts and the side parts are connected to one another at an angle to form the cover part, as recited in claim 10 of the instant application. Thus, it is submitted that US Patent No. 3,658,075 to Jacobs does not overcome the deficiencies of the primary reference EP 0 556 787 to Premoli.

Thus, it is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 10. Claim 10 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and, since claims 11 – 14 and 16 - 19 are ultimately dependent on claim 10, it is submitted that claims 11 – 14 and 16 - 19 are patentable for at least the reason that claim 10 is patentable.

It is also submitted that independent claim 25 is patentable over the prior art of record for at least the reasons that claim 10 of the present application is patentable.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of 10 – 14 and 16 - 25, and favorable consideration of claim 26, are solicited.

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